MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

25 MARCH 1986

Libyan-U.S. Clash in Gulf of Sidra

Libya's version of the 24 March clash in the Gulf of Sidra was contained in an unscheduled announcement broadcast by Tripoli television, which claimed that Libyan air defenses responded to U.S. violations of Libyan airspace over the Gulf by shooting down three U.S. aircraft, two of them at noon and a third in the evening. The announcement added that the U.S. fleet shelled the "suburbs" of the city of Surt with rockets. JANA subsequently stated that U.S. planes attacked a "civilian" Libyan ship and cited a statement by an "informed source" claiming that U.S. aircraft attacked tugboats which went to assist the stricken vessel. Libyan forces, in contrast, permitted a U.S. helicopter to search the area where two U.S. planes were shot down, the source maintained. JANA also accused U.S. planes of following civilian aircraft as a means of obtaining radar cover to enter Libyan airspace.

Meanwhile, Voice of Greater Arab Homeland radio exhorted the Arab masses to storm and destroy all U.S. bases and targets in the Arab world and to execute U.S. "spies" posing as "experts and consultants." Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi discussed the U.S. "aggression" in a telephone conversation with Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad, SANA noted, and JANA subsequently announced Syrian Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam's arrival in Tripoli.

In a related commentary reported by Damascus radio, the Syrian paper *AL-BA'TH* linked events in the Gulf of Sidra with "the tense situation on the northeastern front between Syria and the Zionist enemy," adding that the United States is openly backing Israeli "threats" against Syria. For Iran's part, Prime Minister Mir Hoseyn Musavi stressed "full support" for Libya in a statement cited by IRNA, asserting that the U.S. action was a "flagrant violation" of Libya's territorial integrity and is considered "an aggression against all Islamic states."

Sudan

At their meeting in the Ethiopian city of Koka, the National Alliance for National Salvation and the Sudanese People's Liberation Army (SPLA) reached an agreement "on the broad lines of the situation which should precede official dialogue between the two sides," SUNA reported, adding that a committee was established to "formulate the resolutions which have been reached." Addis Ababa radio reported 25 March that the Sudanese delegations ended their meeting with an agreement to hold a constitutional congress in Khartoum in June. The National Alliance delegation head also announced that the two sides would meet again 7 May to prepare for the constitutional conference, while the SPLA delegation head said an agreement was reached that the Transitional Military Government will resign and that Sudanese military agreements with other countries will be canceled, the radio added.

Iran-Iraq War

Iranian troops "succeeded in completely annihilating" an Iraqi brigade in heavy fighting along the Al-Bihar-Basra road 24 March, while Iranian naval forces sank Iraqi vessels in the Khawr 'Abdallah before they could approach Iranian positions, an Iranian military communique broadcast by Tehran radio claimed.

OPEC Affairs

The OPEC conference meeting held in Geneva 16-24 March was adjourned until 15 April "in order to allow enough time for OPEC heads of delegations to consult their respective governments, as well as with other oil-producing exporting countries," according to a press statement carried by OPECNA. In a related report, the chief Iraqi delegate to the conference told AFP that Iraq is not prepared to compromise on its demand for a 13.1-percent quota of any oil production ceiling decided upon by the OPEC countries.

Israel; Inter-Arab Affairs

Israel has always welcomed direct talks with any Arab leader, senior Israeli officials said in reaction to a proposal by Morocco's King Hassan II that an Arab head of state be "elected" to meet with an Israeli official, Jerusalem radio reported. KUNA reported earlier that in an interview with Kuwait's *AL-SIYASAH*, the Moroccan king proposed that an Arab leader meet with an Israeli official to "ascertain the enemy's views on the Fes summit resolutions." The king stressed that under his proposal, the Arab head of state "will not negotiate, will not be committed to anything, and will not sign anything."

Shelling in Southern Lebanon

An army of southern Lebanon (ASL) artillery attack on the southern market town of Al-Nabatiyah was not authorized by ASL Commander General Antoine Lahd, who has ordered the imprisonment of the ASL soldier responsible, Jerusalem radio reported. The shelling killed 3 people and wounded 24 others, the radio said.

FBIS **DAILY REPORT**

CONTENTS

South Asia

Vol VIII No 057 *25 March 1986*

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW i

AFGHANISTAN

Karmal Addresses Constitution Commission Session ..... C 1
Karmal Sends Message to UN on Antiracism Day ..... C 1
Political Observer on Reagan's Announcement ..... C 1
UN Cooperation Group Sends Message to Perez de Cuellar ..... C 2
AFP: Rebels Attack Soviet Bases in Kabul ..... C 3

INDIA

Gandhi 'Under Pressure' To Send Army Into Punjab *[AFP]* ..... E 1
Parliament Debates Foreign Ministry Grant Demands ..... E 1
Tension in Neighboring States Viewed ..... E 1
Bhagat Explains Government Stand ..... E 2
Bhagat Discusses Position on Indian Ocean ..... E 2
Sri Lankan Refugees Not Prevented From Returning ..... E 2
Punjab Chief Minister Reports on 'Extremist Crime' ..... E 2
Further Incidents of Violence in Punjab ..... E 3

PAKISTAN

Ziaul Haq Interviewed on Domestic, Foreign Issues *[JANG 15 Mar]* ..... F 1
Indian Leaders Send Messages on National Day ..... F 1
5 Killed in Afghan Attack on Refugee Camp *[AFP]* ..... F 1
Afghan Mujahidin Shoot Down Helicopter in Qandahar ..... F 1
Destroy Military Posts in Paktia ..... F 1

OTHER COUNTRIES

SRI LANKA

Premadasa Says Terrorists Want Dictatorship ..... G 1
Minister Notes Allocation of Funds To Fight Tamils *[AFP]* ..... G 1
Security Forces Kill 15 in Vavuniya 19-20 Mar *[Delhi]* ..... G 1
Security Forces Raid Terrorist Camp in Mullaitivu ..... G 1
10 Killed, 50 Injured in Jaffna, Mullaitivu *[Delhi]* ..... G 1

IRAN

Reportage on U.S.-Libyan Confrontation ..... I 1
Tehran Notes U.S. 'Attack' ..... I 1
Musavi Reiterates Support ..... I 1
President Meets With Top Military Commanders ..... I 1
Aqazadeh Interviewed on Geneva OPEC Talks ..... I 1
Defense Minister Warns Iraq of Retaliation ..... I 2
Italy Asked To Ban Mojahedin-e Khalq Activities ..... I 2
Foreign Ministry Official Leads Delegation to Lebanon ..... I 2
Kurdish Peshmerga's Battle Successes in Iraq Noted ..... I 3
TV Shows Surrender of Iraqi Soldiers in Al-Faw ..... I 3
Khatam ol-Anbiya' Issues Communique No 26 ..... I 3
Buckley Reportedly 'Died in Tehran Hospital' *[Radio Iran]* ..... I 4
Radio Iran Carries Bakhtiar's New Year Message ..... I 4

Kurdish Democratic Party Holds Congress Session *[London KEYHAN 6 Mar]* ..... I 4
Commentary on USSR Position in Afghanistan ..... I 4
Correction to Khomeyni Speaks on War, Religion ..... I 5

Karmal Addresses Constitution Commission Session
LD231909 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari
1600 GMT 23 Mar 86

[Text] The commission set up to draft the DRA constitution held its first session under the chairmanship of Babrak Karmal, general secretary of the PDPA Central Committee and president of the DRA Revolutionary Council at the headquarters of the Revolutionary Council this afternoon.

At the beginning of the session Babrak Karmal addressed the members of the commission and said: The history of the homeland entrusts you and us with a great responsibility and a very serious task. We are bound to draw up the first constitution of our free, revolutionary, and democratic state — the DRA. As the PDPA and the DRA have promised the noble and free people of Afghanistan, the draft of this constitution must be democratic, progressive, and based on lofty national interests and the strict observation of the sacred religion of Islam.

The real will and basic interest of workers, peasants, tradesmen, nomads, intellectuals, other toilers in social stratas, private investors, and all the democratic and patriotic forces of all the nationalities, tribes, and clans of the country should be reflected in the future constitution of Afghanistan.

The respect of the DRA for the human rights declaration following the peace-loving policy of friendship and cooperation with all the people of the region and world, the principles of defense of national independence, national sovereignty, territorial integrity, and people's government in the DRA should be confirmed in this constitution.

The consolidation of unity and fraternity and the unity of all the people and all the nationalities and tribes resident in our united country — revolutionary Afghanistan — must constitute the base and foundation of the country's future constitution.

The realization of the objectives of the national and democratic April Revolution, the realization of the aims and wishes of the people of the country regarding building a new society, establishing peace, freedom, justice, fraternity, equality, democracy, and progress should be consolidated and legally constituted in the constitution.

The secretariat and its working group were elected after general discussion and study in this session of the commission and special instructions were given on their work procedure.

The work of the session ended with the recitation of few verses from the holy Koran by Qari Mohammad Nabi, preacher of the Pol-e Khasht-e communal mosque.

Karmal Sends Message to UN on Antiracism Day
LD230600 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0424 GMT 23 Mar 86

[Text] Kabul, March 22, BAKHTAR — "I express with great pleasure the full support of the people and the state of the DRA on the occasion of March 21, international day for the elimination of racism and racial discrimination."

This was stated by Babrak Karmal, general secretary of the PDPA CC and president of the Revolutionary Council of the DRA, in a message addressed to the United Nations secretary general.

The Government of the DRA, the message points out, being a member of international convention, has taken concrete and practical measures for the elimination of all kinds of racial discrimination and to ensure equality among the various nationalities, ethnic groups and tribes residing in the DRA regardless of their race, religious beliefs and social status.

The government has embodied many provisions of the international covenants on racism and racial discrimination in the fundamental principles of the DRA. But unfortunately, despite the indefatigable effort of the United Nations and the progressive forces of the world against the disgraceful system of racism and apartheid, millions of people are suffering from all kinds of racial discriminations and oppression on our planet, Babrak Karmal said in his message.

The miserable conditions in Palestine and the occupied Arab regions have further deteriorated due to the brutal discriminatory policy pursued by the Zionist regime of Israel, the message said.

Babrak Karmal expressed his firm conviction that the doctrine of racial discrimination is unjust and invoke hatred and hostility among the people. It posed grave danger to global peace and stability, and therefore, we strongly condemn such a policy.

Babrak Karmal assured the world body of full support of the DRA for the implementation of the lofty objectives of the Charter of the United Nations and the international covenant regarding elimination of all kinds of racial discrimination and the United Nation's practical program of the 2nd decade directed against racism and racial discrimination.

Political Observer on Reagan's Announcement
LD250636 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0427 GMT Mar 25 86

[Text] Kabul, Mar 24, BAKHTAR — A political observer of BAKHTAR writes:

The leadership of the United States does not want the situation around Afghanistan to be solved.

Ronald Reagan, President of the United States, once again announced March 21st, 1986, as the so-called "Afghanistan day" in the United States.

Reagan's announcement and the concern expressed by the White House for the solution of the situation around Afghanistan testify to the fact that such assertions are mere propaganda gimmicks and are aimed at deceiving the world public opinion. Otherwise, the White House could not have rejected the idea of finding a political solution to the situation around Afghanistan.

The United States which launched an undeclared war against the revolution and the people of Afghanistan right from the begin-

ning of the April Revolution, is expanding it by all means. This war which is the most expensive CIA operation after the Vietnam war, acquires new dimensions with every passing year. Reagan administration has spent one and a half billion dollars on this war.

It has allocated over 500 million dollars to the counter-revolution in new fiscal year. This is apart from the huge amounts spent through secret channels in this dirty war.

Washington administration is equipping the counter-revolution with arms and ammunition such as side-winder and stinger missiles, which were used for the shooting down of a civilian airliner.

It has also launched a large-scale psychological war on the DRA. Not only the saboteur [words indistinct] are carrying on hostile broadcasts against the DRA and the revolution but with the help of American dollars a new radio station of psychological war such as the so-called "Radio Free Afghanistan" has been established.

The high-ranking authorities of White House have become direct allies in this undeclared war.

Such official figures as Shultz and Weinberger, while visiting Pakistan had also visited Peshawar and the counter-revolutionary camps and military training camps of terrorists and each time presented to the counter-revolution cheques of millions of dollars.

Meeting with counter-revolutionary ringleaders have also been held time and again in the White House. Recently, U.S. Attorney General Edwin Meese during his visit to Peshawar conveyed the personal message of Ronald Reagan to the Afghan counter-revolution. It means that Reagan is personally heading the war as its organizer.

The United States is trying not only to drag ever-further its allies such as Britain and the Federal Republic of Germany to this undeclared war but it exerts pressure on them to allocate more budget to the counter-revolutionary gangs.

The meeting of Abdul Haq with Mrs Thatcher, British prime minister, her cabinet members and talks around the situation of Afghanistan by the parliamentary commission on foreign affairs of the Federal Republic of Germany are examples.

At this juncture, we should recall the arming of Pakistan with modern armaments and its American connivance of the nuclear programmed of Pakistan. This was the United States which sent its 7th Fleet led by nuclear-powered aircraft carrier *Enterprise* for a visit to the shores of Karachi.

The Democratic Republic of Afghanistan, DRA, believes that the cessation of the undeclared war and reliable guarantee for the non-recurrence of any kinds of intervention constitute the basic conditions for the solution of the situation around Afghanistan.

UN Cooperation Group Sends Message to Perez de Cuellar

LD230640 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0518 GMT 23 Mar 86

[Text] Kabul, March 22, BAKHTAR — Following is the message of the participants of the founding function of the Association of Cooperation With the United Nations in the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan addressed to Javier Perez de Cuellar, secretary general of the UNO:

The representatives of the vast strata of the working people of the DRA got together in Kabul at the founding function of the Association of Cooperation With the UN in Afghanistan on March 22, 1986.

The participants of the function, while expressing their full adherence to the UN Charter and their decisive support to the constructive and humanistic activities of the creditable international organisation, are expressing their opinion in connection with the most pressing issue of the contemporary world, that is the issue of peace, the most important aim of the UN. While appreciating the valuable activities of the UN towards preserving international peace and security, they are expressing anxiety and indignation on the existing tense international situation which is emanating from the adventurist policies of the initiators of limited nuclear war and threatens the very existence of humanity and its several thousand years old civilisation. They are manifesting their ever further readiness to struggle for preservation and consolidation of international peace and security, eliminating the danger of nuclear war and the scrapping of hotbeds of tension in different parts of the world.

The participants of the function express their anxiety on the tense situation around Afghanistan which is created as a result of the interference of world imperialism and international reaction, which not only threaten peace and security in the region but throughout the world. They express gratitude for the UN efforts aimed at peaceful solution of the situation around Afghanistan.

Representing the people of the DRA, the participants of the function elucidated that the righteous struggle of the people of Afghanistan for attaining peace in the country is a part of the struggle of the peoples of all continents for attaining peace. The people of Afghanistan invoke all peace loving forces of the world, first and foremost the UNO, for advocating the peace issue in Afghanistan. The people of Afghanistan are in the same proportion ready to participate in the struggle of the world public for ensuring world peace, terminating nuclear tests, stopping of arms race, complete disarmament, the delivering of humanity and its civilisation from the menace of nuclear catastrophe, and to place international relations on the basis of justice, good will, mutual understanding and cooperation among all countries and peoples.

The participants of the function pointed out in this connection that the immediate implementation of the Soviet peace proposals and initiatives reflected in the statement of Mikhail Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU dated January 15, 1986, will provide real and practical means for the elimination of disastrous danger of nuclear war. They have also opened bright horizons for the great and broad world movement for peace.

The participants of the function, while warmly welcoming the peaceable activities of the UNO for the elimination of the danger of nuclear war, consolidation and development of relations between the countries of the world on the basis of the principles of peace and peaceful co-existence, are fully confident that the valuable resolutions of the UN on disarmament and the anouncement of 1986 as the international year of peace can play a significant part for the stopping of arms race on earth and preventing its spread into the outer space, consolidation and ensuring of international peace and security as the most basic and pressing task of the UNO.

The participants of the function once again insist that the Association of Cooperation With the UN in Afghanistan, which has been set up on the will and wish of the people of Afghanistan as an ally of the UN will embark upon the dissemination of the aims, principles, gains and constructive activities of the UN. Parallel to the UNO and other peaceloving forces in the world, it will endeavour for creating mutual understanding, consolidation of friendship between the world peoples without any discrimination on the basis of the principle of peaceful coexistence, expansion of economic development, social progresses, improvement of the living conditions of the people, preservation and consolidation of world peace, the imperative requirement of the era.

AFP: Rebels Attack Soviet Bases in Kabul
BK251328 Hong Kong AFP in English 1322 GMT 25 Mar 86

[Text] Islamabad, March 25 (AFP) — Afghan rebels fired rockets at Soviet military bases in Kabul last week, when the country marked Afghan new year, western diplomats said here today.

Quoting an excellent source, they said at least 14 rockets exploded in or around the major Darul Aman base. The diplomats had no casualty or damage reports, but they said a Russian source had confirmed that six rockets fell inside the embassy. The Soviet source said there was no damage.

Quoting a separate source, the diplomats reported considerable firing at Darul Aman and the nearby Kargan base, with Soviet and Afghan artillery responding to the rebels rockets.

The diplomats said the spate of rocket attacks, and an unusual, though brief, day-time gun-battle outside the capital drew a thorough Soviet house-to-house search of at least four Kabul localities, with a pair of helicopters providing cover to the security forces.

Meanwhile in the strategic Panjshir valley, the diplomats said, the mujahidin made unsuccessful attacks on four Soviet-Afghan outposts, drawing a tough response.

They said the situation in southern Qandahar Province remained bad, with markets closing around noon and residents facing food and medicine shortages.

On the political front, President Babrak Karmal renewed in his new year message an amnesty for Afghan exiles returning home and offered to exempt peasants from penalties on non-payment of taxes.

The remission would cost the government 18 million dollars in lost revenue from 760,000 peasant families, and the diplomats said the measure showed up the regime's inability to enforce land taxes in the troubled countryside.

In his message the Afghan leader also confirmed that Kabul has supplied United Nations envoy Diego Cordovez with a timetable for a phased withdrawal of Soviet troops, but alleged that the United States was not interested in a political settlement of the Afghan crisis.

Gandhi 'Under Pressure' To Send Army Into Punjab

HK250824 Hong Kong AFP in English 0817 GMT 25 Mar 86

[By Dilip Ganguly]

[Text] New Delhi, March 25 (AFP) — Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi is under pressure to send army troops into Punjab after renewed violence in the Sikh-dominated state left some 20 people dead in the past week, reliable sources said Tuesday.

Last week the 41-year-old premier ordered 3,000 more federal paramilitary troops into the state where a section of India's 16 million Sikhs have renewed a violent campaign for secession.

They joined the 18,600 already in the state, as well as the state's 40,000 policemen. This did not improve the situation, one area expert said. "The only answer is the army," he said.

The sources said the premier's own Congress (I) partymen in the state bordering Pakistan have requested troops to quell the bloodshed that has risen gradually since the federal government and moderate Sikhs signed an agreement last July to end the moderates' autonomy movement.

The militants rejected the agreement.

In gun battles between militants and security forces Monday, at least nine people were killed, prompting analysts here to say that Mr Gandhi could not continue to bid for time hoping the sitaution would improve.

"It is now or never situation... the militants have been given to believe that they can carry on their orgy of violence with impunity... unless something drastic is done, Mr Gandhi will lose face soon," said the expert, who asked not to be named.

The *HINDUSTAN TIMES* Tuesday quoted Ashwani Sikri, a Congress (I) deputy from Punjab, as saying Monday that he had urged Mr Gandhi by telephone to rush troops to halt "rule of the jungle." He said Mr Gandhi responded by requesting that urging be put in writing with all back-up details.

Mr Sikri said the premier had assured him of all steps to check attacks on Hindus — India's religious majority, but a minority in Punjab. The latest attacks have targeted Hindus, who were systematically shot by suspected Sikh separatists. "The situation in Batala town is alarming," Mr Sikri, who represents the constituency in the state assembly, told the *TIMES*.

Some 20,000 Sikh villagers had encircled the Hindu-dominated 100,000 population town for eight days, blocking movement of food supplies. The siege was partly lifted Monday after paramilitary troops arrived in double strength.

The Prime Minister's spokesman here was not available for comment Tuesday.

Observers said the army traditionally has commanded more respect than the paramilitary and tends to have a more sobering effect with its presence.

Analysts here have compared the recent bloody episodes with those of the months that led up to then-premier Indira Gandhi's ordering of troops to oust militants from the Sikh's holiest shrine, the Golden Temple in Amritsar.

Some 650 people, mostly Sikhs and including militant leader Jarnail Singh Bhindranwale, died in the June 1984 operation. Several thousand alleged militants or sympathisers were arrested.

Mrs Gandhi, the current premier's mother, was killed five months later.

The assault had crushed the militants' leadership, but alleged militant Sikh prisoners were released after the moderate Sikh Akali Dal Party government came to power late last year.

Their release, under a government "forgive and forget" policy, apparently has backfired, an observer said.

A PRESS TRUST OF INDIA (PTI) news agency report from Punjab Tuesday said four out of nine people killed in the state Monday were identified as militants.

Among the total killed in the past week were Hindu government employees and trades and Sikh policemen.

The turbaned Sikhs began their autonomy campaign in 1980. It was restricted to street demonstrations and stray killings for three years until Mr Bhindranwale emerged to begin a bloodier campaign.

Parliament Debates Foreign Ministry Grant Demands

Tension in Neighboring States Viewed

BK240855 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 24 Mar 86

[Text] In the Lok Sabha today members from both sides expressed concern over the growing tensions in the neighboring countries and interference by superpowers. They were participating in the resumed debate on the demands of grants of the External Affairs Ministry.

An opposition member said that a thorough review of the whole gamut of our relations with Sri Lanka and Pakistan is needed in view of the developments in the two countries. He demanded that concrete steps should be taken to find a solution to the ethnic problem in Sri Lanka.

A ruling party member said the presence of U.S. fleet at the Pakistan shore has added a new dimension to our relations with that country. He said imperialist forces are plotting subversive activities within the country and are posing a threat to world security.

Bhagat Explains Government Stand

BK241635 Delhi Domestic Service in English
1530 GMT 24 Mar 86

[Text] The external affairs minister, Mr B.R. Bhagat, has said the Sri Lankan Government must stop killings of innocent civilians in the island. He said this is necessary to create a conducive atmosphere to arrive at a political solution to the ethnic problem. Replying to the debate on the demands of grants of his ministry in the Lok Sabha today, the minister said the Sri Lankan Government must restrain its security forces and cease-fire should be maintained from both sides. He said as long as the killing of innocent civilians continues in the island, there cannot be any political talks. He reiterated that there cannot be a military solution to the problem.

Mr Bhagat said the Sri Lanka Government must be prepared to talk with the Tamils directly across the table. The legitimate demands of the Tamils in the island must be met.

Referring to Pakistan, Mr Bhagat said despite contradictions in that country's policies, India has been pursuing the Simla agreement in letter and spirit and working for a durable peace with Pakistan. He said the government is aware that all the nuclear programs of Pakistan are not meant for peaceful purposes.

Pointing out that India is fully aware of the growing nexus between Pakistan and Sri Lanka, the minister said that the problem arises because of involvement of major outside powers in the region.

Mr Bhagat said the Indian Ocean has become not a zone of peace, but a zone of conflict.

The minister assured the house that India's foreign policy has not deviated from any of its basic principles. The country's foreign policy is based on nonalignement and the pursuit of peace and disarmament.

Earlier, members from all sides expressed grave concern over the situation Sri Lanka and the growing nexus among neighboring countries. They urged the government to take positive steps and new initiatives to resolve the ethnic problem and end the killings of Tamils in Sri Lanka.

The opposition members were critical of the government for not being successful in its diplomatic efforts on the Sri Lanka issue. Some ruling party members suggested sending a parliamentary team to foreign countries for creating public opinion to pressurize the Sri Lanka Government to respect human rights. They referred to the Sri Lanka and Pakistan nexus and the role of big powers in the Indian Ocean region. They particularly mentioned the recent visit of the U.S. fleet to Karachi port and the step up in the defense budget of Sri Lanka for procuring weapons to continue violence against Tamils.

The house later passed the demands for grants of the External Affairs Ministry.

Bhagat Discusses Position on Indian Ocean

BK211406 Delhi General Overseas Service in English
1330 GMT 21 Mar 86

[Text] The external affairs minister, Mr B.R. Bhagat, has reiterated that India will resist the attempts of some countries which are trying to distort the concept of the Indian Ocean as a zone of peace by terming it as the regional disarmament measure. Inaugurating a seminar in New Delhi today, he said India is trying to ensure that the 1971 declaration is not (?diluted).

Referring to the U.S. decision to stockpile nuclear arms in Diego Garcia, Mr Bhagat cautioned that it will have an ominous portent for the future.

Describing the Indian Ocean as an arena of great power rivalry, Mr Bhagat clarified that India is opposed to the attempts of some countries to confuse the UN declaration with a nuclear-weapon-free zone proposal.

Sri Lankan Refugees Not Prevented From Returning

BK211614 Delhi Domestic Service in English
1530 GMT 21 Mar 86

[Text] India has denied that Sri Lankan refugees are being prevented from returning to their country. A government spokesman told newsmen in reply to the questions in New Delhi today that there is no basis for press reports that a substantial number of Sri Lankan refugees who wished to go back were prevented from doing so. He said according to information available with the government, few Sri Lankan refugees have left their camps. Government of India would welcome creation of conditions in Sri Lanka which would enable the refugees now in India to return home in safely and with dignity. There are about 125,000 Sri Lankan refugees in India at present.

Punjab Chief Minister Reports on 'Extremist Crime'

BK241636 Delhi Domestic Service in English
1530 GMT 24 Mar 86

[Text] The Punjab chief minister has said that 14 cases of extremist crime in the state have been reported in the last 1 week in which 8 persons were killed. Making a statement on the law and order situation in the state assembly today, he said cases in this respect have been registered and vigorous investigations launched.

Mr Barnala said the state government has taken effective steps to reorganize deployment of the police and paramilitary forces with a view to effectively checking the extremist crime in the state. A sector scheme for intensive round the clock patrolling has already been introduced in the districts of Ferozepore, Amritsar, Gurdaspur, and Kapurtala. He said the scheme is being extended to some other areas of the state.

All the Congress-I, Bharatiya Janata Party, and the CPI members of the state assembly sat on dharna [sit in] in the (?middle) of the house in protest against the continuing law and order problem, particularly in Batala. The dharna started immediately

after the chief minister made the statement on the law and order situation and the speaker not allowing [as heard] the opposition members to ask questions on the statement.

Earlier, the house passed the appropriation bill pertaining to the budget presented on the 10th of this month.

Further Incidents of Violence in Punjab

BK250329 Delhi Domestic Service in English
0240 GMT 25 Mar 86

[Text] In Punjab, eight persons, including two terrorists, were killed and one injured in three incidents of violence in Amritsar and Jullundur Districts last night. An official spokesman told ou. Chandigarh correspondent this morning that 12 terrorists ambushed a patrolling party of the CRPF [Central Reserve Police Force] in a village near (Katu Nangal) in Amritsar District. In the exchange of fire that followed, two CRPF personnel and two terrorists were killed. The terrorists while fleeing left behind one sten gun and two foriegn-made revolvers but took away one rifle of the killed CRPF jawan [personnel].

In another incident in Amritsar District, two assistant station masters were shot dead by some unidentified gunmen at (Golbarh) railway station on the Amritsar-Tarn Taran railway line.

In the third incident, two persons were shot dead and one injured by two sten gun-wielding terrorists in Jullundur City. The victims were sitting in their shop at the time of the attack. The city administration, as a precautionary measure, extended the curfew to some more parts of the city following the incident. The curfew imposed there will continue till tomorrow morning.

Ziaul Haq Interviewed on Domestic, Foreign Issues

GF201344 Lahore JANG in Urdu 15 Mar 86 p 1, 8

[Article by *JANG* correspondent]

[Text] Dubayy — Palestinians should obtain the support of Jordan. This was said by President General Ziaul Haq in an exclusive interview with English and Arabic papers in Abu Dhabi. He said that Pakistan supports the PLO under the leadership of Yasir 'Arafat but it is wrong to say that Israel does not exist. He said that the PLO should accept UN Resolution No 242. He stressed that Israel should accept the PLO as the sole legal representative of the Palestinian people and should be prepared to hold talks with it, keeping this fact in mind.

Expressing his view on relations between Islamic countries he said: We have the ICO although it has not been able to do anything in particular so far. On the Iran-Iraq war he said: If Iran gets the desired quantity of defense material then there will be extraordinary instability in the Gulf region. He said that Pakistan had been making new efforts for peace until about a fortnight ago but there has been no positive result. He said Iran holds extremist views regarding the removal of President Saddam Husayn of Iraq. Moreover, Iran wants to punish Iraq for the loss of $250 billion. At first Iran insisted that Iraq should pay this amount without the aid of any Arab country but later withdrew this condition. President Ziaul Haq said that Iran's attitude showed Iran's inflexibility.

On the question of relations with India he said that he has met Rajiv Gandhi 6 times during his 17 months in office and that there has been some positive progress in these meetings. In relation to the cancellation of Rajiv Gandhi's visit to Paksitan, President Ziaul Haq said: There has been no official announcement about the cancellation of the visit but Pakistan will continue its efforts to improve relations with India.

On the local situation in Pakistan he said: If the opposition respected the rules and regulations, then all parties would be allowed to participate in the democratic process in the country. He advised the political parties to abide by the rules and regulations of registration. He said that opposition outside the assemblies was illegal and the Pakistani people do not accept it. He criticised the opposition working outside the country also and said that they have no knowledge of the events in Pakistan and some are being influenced by Indian experiences and perceptions.

He added that the parties in Pakistan have no clear programs.

He said that the views of the Western mass media on instability in Baluchistan were baseless. We have succeeded in improving living conditions in Baluchistan, he said. Baluchistan is one of the most stable regions, he added.

On Pakistan's nuclear program he said: Pakistan has made considerable progress in nuclear technology but in any case the Pakistani nuclear program is totally peaceful. He added that Pakistan has been able to enrich uranium and that this achievement has been made by only five other countries. On the matter of propaganda against the Islamic bomb he said: Why do they not call the Soviet bomb a communist bomb, why do they not call the American bomb a Christian bomb, why do people not talk of a Hindu bomb? He said: It is our right to have technology and we will get it despite the hostile propaganda.

Indian Leaders Send Messages on National Day

BK250244 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT 25 Mar 86

[Text] In a message to the president [on the occasion of Pakistan's national day], Indian President Giani Zail Singh has expressed confidence that India-Pakistan relations will continue to grow with mutual understanding and for mutual benefit in the spirit of the Simla agreement.

In similar messages to the president and the prime minister, Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi expressed his country's willingness to continue to work for cordial and constructive relations between the two countries in the spirit of the Simla agreement.

5 Killed in Afghan Attack on Refugee Camp

NC231848 Paris AFP in English 1840 GMT 23 Mar 86

[Text] Islamabad, March 23 (AFP) — Five people, four of them Afghan refugees, were killed when Afghan helicopters launched a rocket attack on a refugee camp in Pakistani territory on Saturday, reports reaching here on Sunday said. Residents reported that Soviet-supplied helicopters penetrated into the Parachinar region bordering the troubled Afghan province of Paktia and fired about a dozen rockets killing five people and wounding eleven. The attack was the second this week on Matta Sanga camp. A similar raid on Friday reportedly left three Afghan refugees dead and two wounded.

Afghan Mujahidin Shoot Down Helicopter in Qandahar

BK250816 Karachi Overseas Service in Urdu 0800 GMT 25 Mar 86

[Text] In Afghanistan, the mujahidin are reported to have shot down a Soviet-Karmal helicopter gunship in Qandahar. The pilot and four military personnel on board the helicopter were killed on the spot. Meanwhile, Kabul Radio has confirmed that the Soviet-Karmal forces have suffered heavy losses in mujahidin operations in Paktia and Nangarhar Provinces.

Destroy Military Posts in Paktia

BK250625 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 0600 GMT 25 Mar 86

[Text] In Afghanistan, the mujahidin reportedly attacked Soviet-Karmal military troops in Herat Province, damaging a number of tanks and armored personnel carriers whose crew members were killed on the spot. According to another report, the mujahidin destroyed two military posts at Aqa Kalay in Paktia Province. The Soviet-Karmal forces had set up a military camp there.

SRI LANKA

Premadasa Says Terrorists Want Dictatorship

BK211103 Colombo International Service in English 1030 GMT 21 Mar 86

[Text] Prime Minister Premadasa told the parliament yesterday that the aim of the terrorists was to establish dictatorship covering the entire island under pretext of being socialist. Winding up the debate on the extension of the state of emergency, Mr Premadasa said that the terrorists were launching a fourfold program to achieve their goal. This included the publicity campaign, an ethnic problem, the training of terrorists — locally and and in India — the collection of money and the demand for increased wages and the organizing of strikes. Certain Sinhalese traders were supporting them. The terrorists also attempted to create disturbance in the estate sector. But, the prime minister said, they could not achieve their goal because the government solved the problem of the stateless persons.

The prime minister said that the terrorists had even ignored the directions of the Indian Government. He pointed out that the Indian Government would have to face the charge that it is harboring the northern terrorists.

Mr Premadasa said that although the SLFP [Sri Lanka Freedom Party] is claiming that they could solve the ethnic problem, they do not say how they propose to do so. The SLFP, he said, is of the view that the terrorism should be wiped out setting development work aside, but they charged the government again that the development work had been disrupted. They also demand increased wages for employees.

Minister Notes Allocation of Funds To Fight Tamils

HK220714 Hong Kong AFP in English 0658 GMT 22 Mar 86

[Text] Colombo, March 22 (AFP) — Sri Lanka has allocated an extra 100 million dollars for defence spending this year to help combat militant Tamil separatists, Finance Minister Ronnie de Mel said Saturday.

The extra 2.5 billion rupees (100 million dollars), bringing the defence budget for the financial year which began in January to a record 8.7 billion rupees (348 million dollars), was agreed this week [as received] to meet the needs of the security forces fighting the militants, who are demanding an independent state in the north and east, Mr de Mel told AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE.

The Security Ministry had asked for an extra 3.5 billion rupees — a more than 50 percent increase on the original 6.2 billion allocated for the 1986 budget — but was given 2.5 billion.

The money will be found by cutting development expenditure, Mr se Mel said, and this was already being studied by officials.

Officials were also trying to find ways to cut back capital expenditure in next year's budget, a move which would become inevitable unless an early solution was found to the Tamil problem, Mr de Mel added.

Informed sources said the additional funds would be used to buy naval patrol craft and helicopters to strengthen surveillance in the northern waters across which militants ferry men and arms from southern India.

Helicopters are also needed to enhance air power and move troops quickly to trouble spots, the sources said.

The 8.7 billion rupees now allocated for defence spending account for 12 percent of a total budget of 66 billion rupees for the year, and 22 percent of domestic budget resources, Mr de Mel said.

Security Forces Kill 15 in Vavuniya 19-20 Mar

BK201603 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 20 Mar 86

[Text] In Sri Lanka, 15 persons, including 1 woman, have been shot dead by the security forces during a search operation in Nedunkeni near Vavuniya. The security operations, which reportedly started in the area last night, continued up to 1000 this morning. Three persons have been injured and 14 taken into custody. According to a complaint lodged by the chairman of the Nedunkeni Grama Udaya Mandala [village resurgence group] with the civil authorities (?in) Vavuniya, all those killed are cultivators or shopkeepers of the area. The army men reportedly came in one jeep, two armored cars, and six tractors and removed seven dead bodies. There have also been complaints of largescale looting. There is no official statement on the incident.

Security Forces Raid Terrorist Camp in Mullaitivu

BK221104 Colombo International Service in English 1030 GMT 22 Mar 86

[Text] Security forces on a routine patrol came across a terrorist training camp at (Anandapuram Kudukudu Rippu), 10 miles north of Mullaitivu yesterday. According to the national news agency LANKA PUWATH, on seeing the security forces the terrorists fired mortars and small arms. The troops overpowered the attackers and killed a leader of the Eelam People's Revolutionary Liberation Front. [Words indistinct] and seven others, including a female. On searching the place they found a terrorist camp in a large house. The security forces recovered 6 mortars, 18 shells, a 3-inch mortar, one (?improvised) explosive device, [words indistinct], 47 rifles, and some other items. There were no casualties among the troops.

10 Killed, 50 Injured in Jaffna, Mullaitivu

BK211624 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 21 Mar 86

[Text] In Sri Lanka, 10 persons were killed and over 50 injured today in 2 districts of Jaffna and Mullaitivu in the northern peninsula. In Jaffna town a 25-year-old woman and a 2-year-old girl were killed and 35 others injured when army fired mortar shells. In Mullaitivu District, eight persons, described by the Defense Ministry spokesman as militants, were killed this morning at a place about 14 km northwest of the district camp.

Reportage on U.S.-Libyan Confrontation

Tehran Notes U.S. 'Attack'

GF250558 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0330 GMT 25 Mar 86

[Text] Libyan television yesterday announced that following the U.S. violation of airspace over the Gulf of Sidra and the bombing of the costal town of Surt, 160 km east of Tripoli, Libyan ground-to-air antiaircraft defenses shot down three American jet fighters.

According to the Central News Unit, Libyan television last night interrupted its normal programs and its announcer said: Brothers and sisters, we have just learned that the U.S. Air Force this morning, Monday, started its violation of Libyan airspace over Libyan waters in the Gulf of Sidra. Our antiair defenses have countered this move, shooting down three American planes.

The Libyan television announcer added: Two U.S. jets were downed yesterday at noon and another was downed last night.

In the meantime, Larry Speakes, the U.S. Government spokesman [as heard], announced: The jet fighters of the U.S. 6th Fleet yesterday attacked a Libyan warship in the Gulf of Sidra and also the sites of the ground-to-air SAM missiles deployed near the town of Surt on the Libyan coast.

According to UPI, Speakes added: These attacks were in retaliation for the Libyan firing of six antiair missiles toward U.S. planes which are part of the fleet deployed in the northern section of the Gulf of Sidra.

The U.S. Government spokesman by making this statement formally admitted the aggression of the U.S. fleet against Libyan territorial waters and the attack against a Libyan port.

Musavi Reiterates Support

LD250723 Tehran IRNA in English 0720 GMT 25 Mar 86

[Text] Tehran, March 25, IRNA — Prime Minister Mir Hoseyn Musavi Tuesday reiterated Iran's full support for Libya and added that the Islamic Republic of Iran will strongly confront any plot by international arrogance against Libya.

In an interview with IRNA here Tuesday morning, the prime minister said that U.S. aggression against the Gulf of Sidra was a flagrant violation against territorial integrity of an Islamic country and, therefore, is considered as an aggression against all Islamic states.

Referring to the Libyan downing of three U.S. fighter planes, Musavi said that this was a natural reaction by Libya towards U.S. conspiracies.

"We believe that each blow by the aggressive imperialist powers should be responded strongly. The U.S. should know that nations have become vigilant and the time for its domination in the world has come to its end," the prime minister said.

He added that Muslim nations would no longer permit the U.S. to continue its aggressive policies, stressing that the U.S. should consider the consequences of its threats.

He stressed that in the light of a firm resistance by the Libyans, the U.S. "cannot do a damn thing".

The prime minister added that the U.S. aggression against Libya would cause difficulties for the U.S. reactionary allies who had so far tried to conceal their collaboration with the U.S. in reducing oil prices.

Musavi said that these reactionary states should either take a clear stance against the U.S. or suffer more disgrace before the great Islamic and Arab nations.

President Meets With Top Military Commanders

LD211748 Tehran IRNA in English 1615 GMT 21 Mar 86

[Text] Tehran, March 21, IRNA — Iran's president and head of the Supreme Defensce Council Hojjat ol-Eslam 'Ali Khamene'i said here Friday that if Iranian Muslim combatants did not win the war the war mongering of the Iraqi regime would not come to its end.

In a meeting with top Iranian army commanders here Friday, the president described the Iraqi puppet regime as a "weak point" in the Persian Gulf region which could easily be used by the oppressive powers.

The president further congratulated the Armed Forces personnel on the new year and lauded their crucial role in the recent Iranian victories in the Val-Fajr-8 offensive launched in Iraq's Al-Faw peninsula on February 9th.

On the self-sufficiency efforts of the Iranian Army, the president said that the Army had fortunately taken long strides in this regard, noting that the speed of this effort should be accelerated.

The joint staff chief, the commanders of the Navy, Ground and Air Forces as well as the imam's representative to the Supreme Defence Council Gen. Zahirnezhad were present at the meeting which took place on the occasion of the Iranian new year.

Aqazadeh Interviewed on Geneva OPEC Talks

LD211413 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 21 Mar 86

[Interview with Petroleum Minister Gholam Reza Aqazadeh by unidentified reporter of the Voice and Vision of the Islamic Republic of Iran in Geneva; date not given — recorded]

[Text] [Reporter] Your Excellency Mr Aqazadeh, as you are aware, 5 days have now passed since the start of the 77th OPEC conference convened in Geneva. How do you assess the trend of these negotiations?

[Aqazadeh] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. During the length of OPEC's history, it can be said that this

session is one of the more difficult and problematic OPEC sessions. During the past 5 days, noting the extreme drop in oil prices, there have been many discussions. Up to today, some aspects of the question have been well covered and others have not yet made any progress. The main issue on which we all agreed is that OPEC intends to return prices to their former level. Discussion is also continuing on the quotas for each member and on the manner of their cooperation with non-OPEC producers.

[Reporter] One of the chief problems facing OPEC at the prsent moment is the disruption of the oil market. Could you please explain what elements contributed to bring about this disruption of the oil market, and generally, what was the motivation behind this market disruption?

[Aqazadeh] During the 5 days we participated in the session, we discussed this issue and discovered that there were two main objectives (?being pursued) within OPEC. The first and primary aim is that they [as heard] may be able to weaken Iran's economic power and use this to weaken us and drag us to negotiate about peace. Second, an aim that is a subsidiary of the first but is beneficial to the Western world and the United States, is that they may, with this drop in oil prices, be able to compensate for their decrease in revenues, increase their production, and solve their unemployment problems. Part of this course is that they want to flood the market with a lot of oil and create psychologically, even the [words indistinct] and bring down the price of oil by $5 at a time. They want to bring matters to the point where oil will lose the value that it had in the world as a commodity, and will have a price level of $11-12. In this way the elements that are assisting them are those who, within OPEC — through various covert agreements and by pouring a lot of oil in the market — are helping this process; there are also some among the non-OPEC producers, led by Britain, that assist them by creating a psychological climate and also pouring oil in the market.

[Reporter] In confronting these elements inside OPEC, what form should this struggle take?

[Aqazadeh] When we participate in OPEC, we expound the Islamic Republic's project in this way: By bringing down production, prices should increase; some control over production should be brought about and serious talks must be conducted with non-OPEC oil producers. These and other proposals have been put forward for discussion among OPEC members. Some of them are being followed up well in these dicussions. The point that OPEC is intent on restoring its price levels is something that the majority of members support and declare.

In connection with cooperation with non-OPEC producers, we are talking seriously and frankly with them, and we have asked them to restore prices to their original levels and to lower some of their production.

In connection with the way production will be lowered among OPEC members, discussion is continuing; a lot of problems exist on this issue.

In connection with the control of production, the difficulty is how to decide on the volume of production, and our last discussion will concern control of production, which I do not think will create too many problems. The essence of the issue lies in the manner of the reduction of production by OPEC itself. I hope that in the coming days the question of lowering our production will be resolved.

Defense Minister Warns Iraq of Retaliation

LD211754 Tehran IRNA in English 1623 GMT 21 Mar 86

[Text] Orumiyeh, West Azarbaijan Prov., March 21, IRNA — Defence Minister Colonel Mohammad Hosevn Jalali said here Thursday that if the Iraqi regime continued its attacks on Iranian non-military areas the Muslim combatants will definitely retaliate.

The defence minister who arrived here Thursday on an inspection tour of the region told IRNA that the Islamic Republic of Iran was not fighting with the Iraqi people, but was rather trying to rid them of their ruling Ba'thist regime.

Referring to high morale of Iranian Muslim combatants in the battlefields, the defence minister said that the recent victories of the Islamic Forces was Iranian forces' new-year gift for their nation.

During his inspection Colonel Jalali is to talk with Iranian combatants in the region.

Italy Asked To Ban Mojahedin-e Khalq Activities

LD250904 Tehran IRNA in English 0830 GMT 25 Mar 86

[Text] Rome, March 25, IRNA — The Iranian ambassador to Rome, in a meeting here Monday with the Italian minister of interior, Oscar Luigi Scalfaro, presented documents on terrorist activities of Munafiqeen (MKO) [Mojahedin-e Khalq] in Italy and urged him to ban the activities of the splinter group.

Scalfaro promised the Iranian diplomat that his ministry will take necessary measures to end the activities of Munafiqeen and that of their sympathisers in Italy and described them dangerous for the Italy's security.

Documents submitted included list of the victims of the Munafiqeen including women and children. Members of the group abroad, the Iranian official added, were funded by the Iraqi regime and the group functioned as the fifth column of the Iraqi regime.

The Italian interior minister said that the documents showed that the group was indulged in terrorist acts which were illegal.

Foreign Ministry Official Leads Delegation to Lebanon

LD241340 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 24 Mar 86

[Text] The political director general of the Foreign Affairs Ministry of our country is heading a delegation which arrived yesterday in Tripoli, Lebanon to participate in the ceremonies marking

the 40th day of the martyrdom of Khalil Akawi, one of the activists of the Islamic Tawhid Movement. Before taking part in these ceremonies, the political director general of our country's Foreign Ministry, met with Shaykh Sa'id Sha'ban, the leader of the Islamic Tawhid Movement, and a delegation from Beirut's ulema. They discussed the question of strengthening the Islamic movement and expanding the anti-Zionist front all over Lebanon. The delegation from our country yesterday also met with Mr 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, the Syrian vice president, and discussed topics of mutual interest.

Kurdish Peshmerga's Battle Successes in Iraq Noted

LD201858 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian
1630 GMT 20 Mar 86

[Text] According to a report received from the north of Iraq, the Kurdish Muslim Iraqi peshmerga last week, in the district of (Sangab) in Iraq, 50 km to the south of the oil bearing province of Kirkuk, conducted a series of extensive operations killing 50 Saddamist troops and capturing more than 30. They also managed to capture Farid 'Aziz Mak, the governor of the district. Also during these operations an appreciable amount of weapons fell into the hands of the Kurdish Muslim Iraqi peshmarga as booty and three ammunition dumps were destroyed.

According to the same report, the forces of the army of the Zionist regime of Iraq, who are powerless and unable to directly confront the Muslim Iraqi revolutionaries, fired from helicopters on the defenseless inhabitants of the villages of the Gapilon region which is situated in the liberated areas a few kilometers from Al-Sulaymaniyah in Iraq. As a consequence of this attack several people, including two women villagers, were killed and a number of others were injured.

According to another report from northern Iraq, as a resut of the explosion of mines placed on the (Sayyid Khan) road by the Hezbollah peshmerga of Iraq, one (?supply) vehicle of the enemy was destroyed and at least eight Ba'thist troops were killed and wounded. Also in the same region, the Hezbollah peshmerga destroyed completely an 81 mm mortar and an enemy outpost 5 km from the district of (Sayyid Khan) and a number of enemy personnel were killed or wounded.

TV Shows Surrender of Iraqi Soldiers in Al-Faw

LD231339 Tehran IRNA in English 1320 GMT 23 Mar 86

[Text] Tehran, March 23, IRNA — The television of the Islamic Republic of Iran showed Saturday night a film of Iraqi forces surrendering to Muslim combatants of Iran while wading through swamps of Al-Faw, southern Iraq.

A group of Iraqi troops were seen sunk in mud, stripped to their waist and with no weapons.

Iraqi soldiers were said to have covered several kilometers hidding from their commanders in order to surrender to Iran's Muslim forces.

The Muslim combatants warmly received the Iraqi soldiers and treated the wounded ones.

Observers here said Iraq's Ba'thist forces have no motive for fighting against the Islamic Republic and the Iraqi Army commanders are deprived of any power to advance.

Following the liberation of Al-Faw, tens of Iraqi counteroffensives have so far faced harsh defeats in liberated areas.

Khatam ol-Anbiya' Issues Communique No 26

LD241833 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian
1630 GMT 24 Mar 86

[Communique No 26 issued by Khatam ol-Anbiya' headquarters for joint operations of the Islamic Resolution Guard Corps and the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] In the name of God the compassionate, the merciful. By the dawn and the 10 nights. The blasphemy-fighting heroes of the army of Islam continue to attack the heart of enemy positions, dealing deadly blows to the rotten corps of the Ba'thist and Zionist mercenaries ruling over Baghdad. The heroes have made the new year the start of their final victory over the defeated enemy by their legendary actions in the "Val-Fajr-8" operational area.

O you courageous nation of Islam, the combative and brave nation of Iran, your heroic children, these true defenders of the Islamic revolution, have expressed their messages of congratulation on the blessed birth anniversary of the esteemed and brave commander of the army of Muhammad, peace be upon them, the lord of the virtuous, 'Ali, peace be upon him. They have done this by killing more enemy soldiers and successfully completing a heavy confrontation in the northern section of the "Val-Fajr-8" operational area; they killed or captured hundreds of enemy forces by the virtue of their alertness and unprecedented courage. God-seeking, selfless soldiers of the army of monotheism took part in a heavy battle along the Al-Bihar-Basra road, next to that region's huge palm groves. Our forces succeeded in completely annihilating the 704th Independent Infantry Brigade of the weakening Iraqi Armed Forces and thus killed a large number of the forces of Saddam's criminal regime. A number of enemy soldiers were captured and transfered behind the lines.

The brave heroes of Islam made use of special modern military tactics during another heavy battle on the Al-Faw-Basrah axis and completely surrounded the 28th Infantry Brigade of the 8th Division of the defeated Iraqi Army, which had intended to launch an offensive. The brave heroes did this at the same time they were destroying the 704th Independent Infantry Brigade. At present, our forces are firing on all enemy equipment in the region and the mentioned brigade is on the brink of complete destruction.

Carrying out a series of special operations and using surprise, the ever-victorious forces of the Navy of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps succeeded in taking a number of enemy boats which had tried to move closer to the positions of the forces of

Islam in the Khawr 'Abdallah waters. They sent all these boats and their crews to the depths of the waters of Khawr 'Abdallah. Seek assistance from God and victory is nigh, glad tidings to the faithful.

[Signed] Khatam ol-Anbiya' headquarters, center for the joint operations of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran and the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps.

Buckley Reportedly 'Died in Tehran Hospital'

GF241704 (Clandestine) Radio Iran in Persian 1330 GMT 24 Mar 86

[Text] According to the weekly magazine *LE POINT* published in Paris, the Persian Gulf countries plus Saudi Arabia have decided to repatriate 1.5 expatriate workers over the next 12 months. Palestinians and Lebanese Shi'ites are among the workers to be expelled.

This same magazine, quoting Western intelligence organizations, reports that William Buckley, the American hostage who was kidnapped by Lebanese Hizballah members and whose execution was reported by his kidnappers last year, died in a Tehran hospital.

In another report *LE POINT* states the Iranian Embassy in Paris has complained to the French Government through diplomatic channels that letters and parcel bombs mailed to the Islamic Republic's diplomats in Europe have been sent from Paris. The embassy has asked the French authorities to carry out the necessary investigations on this matter.

Radio Iran Carries Bakhtiar's New Year Message

GF210822 (Clandestine) Radio Iran in Persian 0400 GMT 21 Mar 86

["Message" from Dr Shapur Bakhtiar, leader of the National Resistance Movement of Iran, on the occasion of the Iranian new year;20 March; place not given — recorded]

[Text] Dear compatriots. The festival of Nowruz cannot regain its befitting glory and brilliance during the reign of diabolical forces on our land. First of all, our enemies should be deracinated. Only then will the celebration of the auspicious Nowruz festival be appropriate. In future months your efforts and ours should be galvanized day by day. No compromises can be made as far as sacrifice for the deliverance of Iran. I am convinced that the world will soon realize that Iran can never die!

Kurdish Democratic Party Holds Congress Session

GF231354 London KEYHAN in Persian 6 Mar 86 p 5

[Excerpts] The Iran Kurdish Democratic Party again ratified the slogan "Down With the Islamic Republic of Iran Regime" in the resolution carried in its seventh congress session. The resolution also stated that it was correct for the party to withdraw from the National Resistance Council and that it was essential to support the foreign policy of the party leadership and to strengthen friendly relations with progressive parties and organizations worldwide, especially the socialist countries.

In issuing a statement concerning the 40th anniversary of the founding of the Republic of Kordestan, the Central Committee of the Kurdish Democratic Party indicated that it has now been 40 years since the founding of the autonomous Republic of Kordestan and that the republic was established because of the invasion of the allied forces in Iran and weakness of the central government. It was a time when the Soviet Union and other socialist forces had emerged victorious from World War II and had gained extraordinary influence at the international level.

Efforts have been made in the resolution to justify pulling the Soviet forces out of Azarbayjan. In this connection the statement adds that due to conditions in those days, the Soviet Union, which had just completed its involvement in World War II, did not consider it advisable to confront the United States, which then had a monopoly on atomic weapons. It was because of this that it played only a spectator's role and did not support the democratic faction and the democratic party.

In conclusion, the statement criticizes the central Government of Iran and the deteriorating Khomeyni regime and considers the present the opportune time for an armed conflict to topple the Khomeyni regime.

Commentary on USSR Position in Afghanistan

GF231645 Tehran International Service in Turkish 1830 GMT 20 Mar 86

[Unattributed commentary: "The UN Representative's Visit Related to the Question of Afghanistan"]

[Text] Dear listeners, the number of reports concerning the resistance of the Muslim Afghan revolutionaries has recently increased, compared to what it was in the past. The Afghan mujahidin continue to broaden the dimensions of their heroic struggle in [word indistinct], Herat, [word indistinct], Badghisat, and Qandahar, and in the mountains and fields — in short, in every corner of Islamic Afghanistan. However, while the Afghan mujahidin are stepping up their struggle designed to liberate their occupied country, we are observing the staging of diplomatic plots aimed at suppressing their just struggle.

Following the impasse reached during the sixth round of the Geneva talks, the UN representative dealing with the question of Afghanistan began his contacts over the past few days to have the talks resumed. Although the fourth and the fifth rounds of the talks failed to produce a result, [word indistinct] official contacts revealed that resolving the question of Afghanistan would be possible only following the withdrawal of the Soviet troops which entered Afghanistan in 1982. Regardless of the fact that the question of the Soviet Red Army's withdrawal from Afghanistan has not been finalized as yet, the regime ruling Afghanistan has raised this matter in its negotiations.

Of course the withdrawal of the communist Russian [as heard] troops from Afghanistan is only accepted on the condition that the ruling Marxist regime remains in power and is officially

recognized. In short, the conversion of the indirect talks into direct negotiations between the sides concerned.

The present proposal for direct talks in return for withdrawing the occupying communist troops from Afghanistan and the question of approving this demand is tantamount to surrendering to oppression and to a shameful state of affairs — not to mention the official recognition of a criminal regime trying to place its yoke on the Muslim people who are struggling with all their strength to secure their legitimate rights. This matter is currently being taken into consideration in an indirect way. Apart from this, the question as to whether the direct talks should start before or after the withdrawal of the occupying forces is still on the agenda.

Undoubtedly, the communist regime ruling in Afghanistan does not wish to fully implement the plan to withdraw the Soviet troops for the sake of continuing to exist. The initiative resorted to by the Babrak Karmal regime, which does not intend to jeopardize its existence, is designed to either halt the struggle of the Muslim Afghan revolutionaries or to divert them from their main objectives through various political conspiracies. Clear examples of this state of affairs can be observed in the history of the past struggles waged by Muslims and in the history of the Palestinian struggle, which, itself, is a [word indistinct] example.

All of these conspiracies are being realized with the help of a number of pro-Western puppets in Afghanistan who have no share in the Islamic struggle in that country. These conspiracies are being continued with the objective of usurping the rights of the Muslim people, who have been crushed under the pressures of infidel regimes in Afghanistan for years on end. Nevertheless, the main task of all Muslims is to follow the holy war of the Muslims of Afghanistan, which is gradually entering a more sensitive stage, and demonstrate great sensitivity in helping their Muslim brethren secure their rights. It is necessary to assess the plans recently put forward for reconciliation without forgetting that regardless of the crimes committed by the communist Russian troops during the past 6 years — troops which have destroyed and burnt the entire land of Afghanistan in order to occupy it and maintain their hegemony — the heroic struggle embarked upon by the Muslim Afghan revolutionaries to liberate their occupied lands has not stopped and attains more serious dimensions every day. During the past few years, the Muslims of Afghanistan have demonstrated what a faithful Muslim is to all of the infidels of the world by repulsing all attacks like a wall of steel. They have added another glorious page to the history of the resistance of the Muslims.

Correction to Khomeyni Speaks on War, Religion

The following correction pertains to the item subheaded "Khomeyni on War, Religion," published on page I 1 of the 24 March South Asia *DAILY REPORT*: Paragraph two, antepenultimate line should read: ...not an issue of Shi'ism, it is the... (supplying indistinct word)

paragraph three, antepenultimate line should read: ...this matter? We declare that we are... (confirming word)

paragraph four, line two should read: ...people who would not go to war, if there had been a war; even if they... (supplying correct words, rephrasing)

paragraph five, line two should read: ...the same time — although it did not make any difference — he told them... (supplying indistinct words)

same paragraph, line six and seven should read: ...people who said they were Muslims. These wars were... (confirming words)

same paragraph, penultimate line should read: ...the faithful, who fought all three wars against Muslims.

A Muslim who... (supplying correct words)

paragraph six, line three should read: ...prestige of Islam. It is essential that we should fight against him rather than against those who are... (supplying correct words)

same paragraph, line six should read: ...is another group, who — just suppose — come in order to annihilate the Islamic country and slap Islam in the face. Today, defense is incumbent on all of us. Everyone who can... (supplying correct words, rewording)